

FROM:

DATE: 18 MAR 1963

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				SIGNATURE	INFORMATION	COMMENTS	APPROVAL	ACTION	SEE ME	FILE	RETURN		SEE REMARKS BELOW
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REMARKS:

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RAC No. 032/63

50X1

**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Office of Current Intelligence
18 March 1963**

DAILY REPORT

SUBJECT: US Reconnaissance Activity over Cuba

1. Today's Schedule (18 March 1963)

- a. **Missions:** BRASS KNOB 3498 off at 0526 EST.
Estimated time of return 1344 EST.
BRASS KNOB 3499 scheduled off at
0930 EST. Estimated time of return
1732 EST.
- b. **Purpose:** Mission 3498 will cover south coast
and the Isle of Pines. Mission
3499 will cover the north coast.
- c. **Weather:** Good over western third of island and
along south central coast. Fair to
poor over remainder of island. Slight
improvement in central and eastern
areas tomorrow.
- d. **IPIR due:** 20 March 1963

2. Yesterday's Activity (17 March 1963)

- a. **Missions:** BRASS KNOB 3496 and 3497 covered all
flown of Cuba except the western end.
Pilots estimate percentage coverage
of scheduled targets to be 50% and
30% respectively.
- b. **Weather :** Good over eastern and western tips of
the island. Fair to poor over re-
mainder of island.
- c. **IPIR due:** 19 March 1963
- d. **Reaction:** No significant air defense reaction
to these BRASS KNOB missions was
detected.

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3. Shipping Summary

**a. Soviet Bloc ships confirmed en route to Cuba
1600 EST 17 March:**

Tankers	9
Passenger	2
Dry Cargo	9
Total	<u>20</u>

**b. Soviet Bloc ships in Cuban ports 1600 EST
17 March:**

Tankers	4
Passenger	0
Dry Cargo	20
Total	<u>24</u>

**c. Dry cargo ships now in Cuban ports which were
photographed while inbound to Cuba by low-altitude or
surface cameras: 18**

d. CIA has received photos of 15 of these ships.

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The following is the status of "Special Interest" ships in the Cuban trade:

<u>Ship</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
<u>En route to Cuba:</u>		
Baltika	Passenger	ETA Havana 21 March 0300Z.
Bajkal	Passenger	15 March passed Danish Straits. ETA Havana 29-30 March. (Estimate)
<u>In Cuban ports:</u>		
Orenburg	Cargo (Omsk class)	16 March probably in Santiago. ETA Vladivostok end April.
Krasnograd	Cargo	16 March in Nuevitas. ETD Nuevitas 16 March.
Karachaevo- Cherkassiya	Cargo (Krasnograd class)	15 March 0900Z departed Isabela de Sagua for Nuevitas. ETA Nuevitas 16 March.

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During 10 - 16 March 1963

Targets	Dates							Totals	
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Sorties	Days Covered
1. Siguaneya Cruise Missile Site								0	0
2. Banes Cruise Missile Site					1			1	1
3. Santa Cruz del Norte Cruise Site	1	1		1		1		4	4
4. Camilo Cienfuegos Airfield	2	1	1		1	1		6	5
5. Camaguey Airfield	1						1	2	2
6. Holguin Airfield	1	1	1	1	1			5	5
7. San Antonio de los Banos Airfield	2	2	1	1		2	1	9	6
8. Mariel Naval Base	2	2	2			2	2	10	5
9. Banes Naval Base					1	1		2	2
10. Cienfuegos Naval Base	1	1	1	1		1		5	5
11. Santiago de Cuba Port					1			1	1
12. La Isabella Port		1	1	1	1	1	1	6	6
13. Caibarien Port	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	12	7
14. Cardenas Port	1	1				1	1	4	4
15. Casilda Port			1	1		1	1	4	4
16. Matanzas Port	1	1		1	1	1	1	6	6
17. Havana Port	3	2	2	1		2	1	11	6
18. Guantanamo Area					1			1	1
19. Pinar del Rio Military Camp	1							1	1
20. Artemisa Military Camp	2		1	1		2		6	4
21. Holguin Military Camp	1	1	1					3	3
22. Remedios Military Camp	2	1		1	1			5	4
23. Santiago de los Vegas Military Camp	2	1	1			2		6	4
24. Lourdes (Torrens) Army Camp	1	1	1			2		5	4
25. Limonar Military Camp		1						1	1
26. Camaguey Military Camp	1			1			1	3	3
28. Managua Staging Area	3	2	1			1	1	8	5
29. Bejucal Staging Area	2	2	1			2		7	4
30. Manicaragua Staging Area			1					1	1

During the period 10-16 March 1963, 91 percent of the total land area of Cuba was covered by photography with 25 percent or less cloud cover. This included oblique photography up to 70 miles on either side of the flight line.

During 10 - 16 March 1963, 171 BRASS KNOB missions were flown.

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic down-
grading and declassification

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